

INSIDE

Student unrest

Students at City University of New York, upset over a recent tuition hike, take over several campus buildings.

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Private tragedy

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The final mistake

A classmate's suicide prompts thoughts of death, life from columnist.

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High scorers

The UNO Maverick defense racked up 55 points during the annual spring game Saturday.

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Four senators take an early exit

By KIM HANSEN

Fourteen out of 15 resolutions went unheard at last Thursday's student senate meeting after four senators left the meeting.

Student Senate Speaker Ron Hyde was forced to adjourn the meeting after the senate lost the minimum number of members it needed to hold a meeting, due to the senators leaving early.

The senate must have at least half of its current members present to be able to do business at any meeting.

At the time the meeting was adjourned, all 15 resolutions intended to be discussed were left undecided. These resolutions included plans for construction of shuttle bus shelters and the expansion of KBLZ, UNO's student radio station.

Sens. Lynda Maguire, Adele J. Johnson, Dave Bartholet and Mary Reynolds left the meeting, forcing the adjournment.

Sens. Ronald Krueger and Mike Everton resigned from their senate seats. Johnson and Bartholet submitted resignations which take effect May 11.

In his resignation letter, read by Hyde, Krueger wrote, "I recently realized that I needed to set some priorities, and the student senate was low on the list."

At the April 11 meeting, the senate voted to reconsider the Student Advisory Budget Commission (SABC) budget. After amendments, the altered SABC budget was not accepted by the required two-thirds majority of the senate.

The meeting was adjourned with the intention of the budget being the first order of business at Thursday's meeting.

Hyde said according to Roberts Rules of Order the senate could not reconsider SABC's budget after it had been brought up at the April 11 meeting.

Roberts Rules, a guide to parliamentary procedure, requires a reconsideration to be completed "on the same day the vote to be reconsidered was taken."

According to Hyde, SABC's budget may be amended, but not reconsidered as a whole.

"We basically wasted a whole meeting," he said in an interview, referring to the April 11 meeting.

Roberts Rules is designed, according to Hyde, to allow majority rule with minority rights. However, in the student senate's case, a minority is "doctoring the outcome" of the debate using Roberts Rules, Hyde said.

"We need our own rules," he said.

After Hyde's announcement, ruling the April 11 meeting out of order, Bartholet walked out of the meeting, telling the senate "Good night, guys. Have a nice life."

The senate did debate one resolution to require a "vote of confidence" every two years for the recording secretary, executive treasurer and chief administrative officer of the student senate.

After a motion to indefinitely postpone the resolution failed, Reynolds left the meeting. Her absence caused the senate to lose quorum and forced Hyde to adjourn the meeting.

The senate also voted to purchase computers for the directors of Student Government agencies. The four computers, which cost a total of \$5,749, will be able to link up with the network the senate bought Student Government last

Child care center sees changes

By HEIDI JEANNE HESS

The UNO Child Care Center, located in Annex 47, has experienced some administrative changes since November.

Joyce Kinney, who had been the director of the center since it opened its doors in August 1986, resigned in November.

"I'd just as soon not discuss that," Kinney said in a recent interview.

Kinney, who is now working as the director of the Early Childhood Development Centers for Westside Community Schools District 66, said she truly enjoys her new job.

"I serve as director of all six of the centers," she said. "I love being back in the public schools."

Kinney said her job at UNO was to create quality child care. At District 66, an Omaha public school system, "They are already into quality. It's just keeping the level of quality where it already is."

Kinney said she gets to spend a lot of time with children at her present job, "which I wasn't doing at UNO. I was doing a lot of administrative things."

Since Kinney's resignation, Ellen Freeman, who was the assistant director, has been given the title of interim director of UNO's Child Care Center.

According to Guy Conway, director of the Student Center, Freeman has been given the position of interim director because his office is in the process of evaluating her and she does not yet have a bachelor's degree.

Conway said the job description calls for someone with a Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Education, Early Childhood Development, Child Development or a related field, plus a minimum of 2 years teaching or directing in a child care center.

Freeman said she will graduate in August

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



- ERIC FRANCIS

Got a pillow?

Over the weekend, this tiger seemed to be as interested in the girl as she was in it. The tiger, not the girl, is permanently located at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo.

National Briefs

Cancellations forced at nine campuses

(CPS) — In the most emphatic and radical response to some of the massive tuition hikes being announced nationwide for next fall, students at at least nine campuses of the City University of New York (CUNY) forced the cancellation of classes and took over buildings the second week of April.

Enraged by New York Gov. Mario Cuomo's call to raise tuition by \$500 per semester, lay off faculty and staff members and slash state aid by \$400 million, students at one CUNY campus — City College — took over five buildings.

At the same time, students at Borough of Manhattan Community College, Lehman College, Hunter College, Bronx Community College, Hostos Community College, New York City Technical College and Brooklyn College chained and barricaded themselves inside administration and academic buildings.

"They can't ignore this," said Rafael Alvarez, president of City College's Day Student Government.

Like those at CUNY, students in at least a dozen states may be facing tuition hikes of more than 10 percent next fall.

In mid-March, trustees of one of the largest college systems in the United States — the 19-campus California State University system — announced they were raising fees by 20 percent for next fall.

The State University of New York, which is the biggest system in the country, will cost students 60 percent more next year, while Massachusetts Gov. William Weld in February imposed yet another tuition hike — the fifth in two years — on public campus students there.

All hikes, of course, were prompted by the budget emergencies in at least 20 states, where the recession has dramatically decreased the amount of tax money local governments have

collected.

As a result, state governments have less money to spend on everything.

Left with less money from their states, public colleges must then cut spending and raise money from other sources such as students.

Students, on the other hand, protest they cannot afford to pay more for college.

Cal State's fee hike may keep 10,000 to 43,000 students from enrolling next fall, the California Postsecondary Education Commission and the state Assembly Committee on Higher Education estimated April 8.

"What (Cuomo) is doing is closing the doors to access for thousands of students in the CUNY system," Alvarez maintained. "If students can't make it at CUNY, where else can they go?"

CUNY Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds agreed.

"The City University has clearly expressed its opposition to the proposed \$500 tuition increase and budget cuts to Albany officials," Reynolds said in a statement April 9.

"I understand the deep concern the students feel, but this does not justify the obstruction of classes and access to college facilities," she continued.

Nevertheless, protesters forced Manhattan Community College, Hostos Community College and City College in Harlem to cancel classes April 11. At Hunter College, all students occupying a campus building were suspended.

Police and hired security guards were used to take back buildings at Lehman, Bronx Community College and Borough of Manhattan with isolated reports of police violence and rough treatment of protesters.

"We've got nothing to lose," said Carol Bullard, president of the graduate student government at Hunter College.

A similar, if less widespread, 1989 CUNY student protest of a proposed \$200 tuition hike eventually forced Cuomo to veto the increase.

Cuomo says he will stand firm this time.

"In no case will they (the protesters) have an

effect on my judgment, and I haven't changed my mind one bit," Cuomo said.

Heterosexual group loses recognition

(CPS) — Carol Cordell, student club coordinator at Iowa State University, at least temporarily withdrew official ISU recognition of

the Heterosexual Society, an anti-gay campus group, because it required members to attest to their heterosexuality.

The heterosexual pledge, Cordell said, violated ISU's anti-discrimination policy.

Group members will amend their constitution to meet the policy, society Chairwoman Deanne Backes told the *Iowa State Daily*. She added the group will change its name to Allied Students Against Perversion.

CPS Cartoon Commentary

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Local Briefs

Boughter, Gullet win top honors at history conference

Two UNO students took top honors at the 26th annual Student History Conference held recently at the University of South Dakota.

Judith A. Boughter, a UNO student, took top honors in the modern history division of the conference.

Boughter's winning presentation was titled "Kiowas, Comanches, and Manifest Destiny: The Jerome Agreement Controversy, 1892-1903."

Another UNO student, Michelle C. Gullett, won the graduate division. The paper was titled "Tea and Sympathy."

Organizational meeting set for Bethsaida archeology dig

An organizational meeting will be held May 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the University Religious Center for students planning on traveling to Bethsaida Israel for an archeological dig.

Students may earn a total of six credit hours for participating.

According to Toni Tessaro, a student who went on the dig last year, they are planning on leaving for Israel June 19 and will return June 11.

The cost of the dig is \$750 for three weeks of room, board, lectures and tours. Students can expect to pay about \$1,150 for air fair.

Interested students can contact Tessaro at 554-2730 for more information.

CCS sponsoring bus tour of Living History Farms

UNO's College of Continuing Studies will be sponsoring a bus tour to the Living History Farms near Des Moines, Iowa on May 11.

The tour will leave Omaha at 8 a.m.

At the Living History Farms, participants will tour reconstructed working farms of the late 19th century, plus a Native American village and a typical Iowa small town of the past.

Edward Brodnicki, an instructor in UNO's anthropology department, will lead the tour.

For more information or to register, call 595-2308.

Hess, Johnson win top posts at Gateway for summer, fall

Heidi Jeanne Hess was named editor, and Shannan Johnson was named ad manager of the *Gateway* for the summer and fall sessions.

Hess has served as news editor since last November.

Johnson was assistant ad manager during the summer and fall sessions of 1990 and is currently ad manager.

May 12 ceremony scheduled for commissioned students

The following UNO students will be commissioned as second lieutenants in the U. S. Army on May 12: Charles B. Arnold, Thomas J. Castellano, Darren C. Huskisson, and John D. Sherrick.

The ceremony will begin at 2 p.m. at the Offutt AFB Officer's Club Nebraska Room, according to 2nd Lt. Cynthia A. Lerch, Army ROTC.

A reception will follow at 3 p.m.

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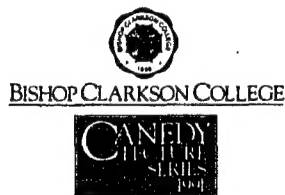
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Child care center will be full in September

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with a bachelor's degree in education and sociology.

Conway said the child care center is run through his office and is handled like other programs in the Student Center such as Food Services and the Bookstore.

"I give assistance and administer," he said. "Initially it was set up this way because this program is subsidized by student fees," Conway said. He added Student Government was the impetus to getting the center started.

Freeman said the center at UNO can hold up to 79 children from ages 18 months and up.

"We don't have a big enough building space to have infants," she said.

In addition to the administrative changes at UNO's center, Jeanine Huntoon was recently named the director of the new Child Care Center located at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, which has been in operation since April 15. "The center is going really well," Huntoon said.

"We are managing the operation for the Med Center, although the employees are Medical

Center employees. In exchange for that, we get space there," Conway said. Twenty-five of the openings at the Med Center facility are reserved for UNO use.

According to Huntoon there are 125 spaces at the Med Center, 40 of which are for infants.

"We've gotten good response from UNO and the Med Center," she said. "We will be full as of September."

Freeman said she helped set up the program at the Med Center and is glad it is in operation.

"It is helping take the pressure off of our waiting list and we have some parents with babies," Freeman said.

Some UNO parents take their infants to the Med Center facility while their toddlers attend the child care center at UNO, Freeman said.

Freeman added the opening of the Med Center's facility has not hurt UNO. "It has helped in some ways."

Conway said there are no short-term plans for expansion of the child care center at UNO, however long range plans may include expansion or relocation of the center.

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Cancer invades life of victim and family

By D.J. STILES

Lois Dean and her husband David have been good friends of my parents and our family for more than two years now. They've helped us build our deck, front porch and so many other unique projects around the house and the yard.

David and Dad have so many times done those things around the yard most fathers do.

Mom and Lois have been avid church and community project people for so many different causes I can't keep count.

They've all bowled together for our church bowling league and, after building the deck, the four of them lounged on it every nice summer evening smoking cigarettes and drinking iced tea out of those big plastic mugs.

David and Lois are always a pleasure to be around and even to sit down and chat with.

They go out of their way to be good to anyone and everyone. It seems to come naturally to them. No questions, just lots and lots of support.

Recently, mom mentioned something about David and Lois' daughter Vanessa that really made me wonder about life, and why it always seems to be so unfair.

Vanessa has cancer.

She has battled this cancer for almost six years now.

Vanessa has two kids, Chris, 6, and Jenny, 12. This summer, they will be moving back to Omaha to live with David and Lois.

But let's start at the beginning...

Lois began this story by telling me Vanessa first felt a lump in her breast at the beginning of October 1985.

She went to a doctor and was told to watch it closely and come back in two weeks.

She called Lois a couple days later — the lump had gotten bigger.

Lois said, "Don't wait two weeks, Vanessa."

October 4, 1985

"Vanessa's husband Peter called. He said the lump was cancer and the breast had to be removed," Lois said.

The breast was removed, and further tests showed the cancer was gone.

It seemed as if maybe this was one frightening experience that had been taken care of.

May 1986

Vanessa's husband was transferred to Omaha, so the whole family moved.

Here Vanessa had some routine tests done. The tests showed no sign of cancer.

July 1986

Vanessa was wrestling with one of the kids in the living room and happened to find another lump in the same area, which months before was said to be cancer free.

"They had to do a biopsy because her platelets were so low."

Lois said the doctor looked very sad after examining the results.

He said, "I'm really sorry. The cancer has spread to the bones."

Vanessa started chemotherapy that day.

"She reacted very well," Lois said. "But she looked like a balloon blown up too tight."

Vanessa and her family then moved to Texas for eight months, which seemed to bring her good luck.

"They did tests in Texas," Lois said, "and there was no sign of cancer anywhere."

Vanessa was in total remission.

June 1987

Vanessa's husband found a new job in Detroit.

"It was a very stressful move for Vanessa," Lois said. "She didn't want to move."

Stress can cause cancer to aggravate, Lois said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



—DAVID DEAN

Lois Dean shows off her favorite photo of her daughter Vanessa. "Her attitude has always been fabulous," Lois said. "The only way you can lick cancer is with a good attitude."

Health care of the '90s — fifth in a five-part series

Allied Health Professionals

Nuclear medicine used for cancer studies

By D.J. STILES

A nuclear medicine technologist (NMT) doesn't use nuclear weapons to battle illness, but they do employ some sophisticated equipment.

NMTs work under the direction of a nuclear medicine physician. The NMT has the responsibility of properly operating equipment, preparing radioactive drugs, and performing the procedures involved in this field.

"These are exciting times right now. It is wonderful to be doing new things and to see that years of research and study are paying off," said Cheryl Sanders, acting director of the Nuclear medicine technology program at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Sanders said nuclear medicine is like doing sectional anatomy.

"We're seeing things as we've never seen them before," she said.

According to Sanders, the patient being treated or diagnosed is injected with a radioactive agent (radiopharmaceutical) by the NMT. Each of these radiopharmaceuticals concentrate in different parts of the body.

"It must be given systematically," she said. "Radiation is injected into a vein along with an organ specific chemical. It then goes throughout the whole system and collects in that organ."

Once the technologist injects the radiopharmaceutical, it is tracked, the organ it goes to is tagged, and the equipment develops an image of the area to be diagnosed.

"The data or images are given to a specialist after being put together," she said. "A diagnosis is made based on the information given to them."

Sanders said the images will show what are called "hot spots" and "soft spots." The soft spots indicate no cancer, and the hot spots show where the cancer is.

"It is a different kind of hazard," Sanders said referring to the imaging equipment used. "You can't turn it on or turn it off like an X-ray."

She went on to explain that the machines used in this field give off massive amounts of radioactivity.

Sanders said there are no measureable effects on other body areas, but when it really comes down to it, one must weigh the risks and the benefits.

A PET scanner is one of the machines used in this field.

Sanders said the program offered in nuclear medicine technology at the Medical Center offers a lot of opportunities for students.

"Probably more than any other in the country," she said. "We are just now discovering all that these things potentially have of doing all this."

Great demand for radiation therapists

By D.J. STILES

A radiation therapy technologist gets involved in many areas of patient care.

Radiation therapy technologists are involved in planning treatment, calculating doses of radiation, operating machines to administer treatment, and related patient care activities.

Cheryl Sanders, director of the radiation therapy technology program for the School of Allied Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center said "a radiation therapist is a technologist that runs the equipment that we use to treat cancer."

Radiation therapy technologists "try to find out as much information as possible before treatment," she said. "Then we treat patients with a variety of high radiation beams."

Sanders said there are three different kinds of method used in the treatment of cancer.

"Surgery is the oldest," she said. "When in doubt, cut it out."

"Chemotherapy is systematic, all over the body," she said, while "radiation therapy is localized."

In radiation therapy, the technologist administers radiation to the patient by using what is called a linear accelerator.

According to Sanders, the device, which looks similar to a CAT scan machine, uses an external beam to give very high doses of radiation

to the patient.

"A normal X-ray consists of 80 to 100 KV (kilovolts)," she said. "In administering radiation to cancer patients, the KV is four to 10 million."

"This is very sophisticated equipment," Sanders said. "The people administering radiation should know what they're doing, and where they're aiming it."

Sanders said seldom is only one treatment is used, and currently cancer treatment uses a combination of all of these.

"Cancer is not a disease," she said. "It is an abnormal aberration of a normal cell."

According to Sanders, there are 270 different cancers that have been identified today.

She said of those being treated for cancer, 60 percent are being treated with radiation.

"Radiation is never used for anything but treatment," Sanders said. "It is not used for any other process but cancer, except specialized treatments."

"Radiation therapists are a hot commodity right now," Sanders said. "There is a terrible shortage."

According to Sanders the minimum starting salary for a radiation therapist is at least \$25,000 a year.

"We consider cancer patients very special people," Sanders said, "that we treat in a very special way."

Opinion

Catch-up time?

Editor's note: Keep in mind while reading this editorial that the writer is failing most of his classes.

The name is appropriate — dead week.

Take a look at the students walking across campus this week. After 13 weeks, they can generally be divided into two groups:

- Group one, those that walk with a confident swagger, usually toward the library. They are the ones who have studied and kept up with their work. For them, dead week is a time to put the finishing touches on final projects and prepare for final exams.

- Then there is group two. Members of this group don't swagger, they sway. This is usually the result of a caffeine-

Staff Editorial

Dead week

induced haze. They've been up all night, frantically trying to cram 13 weeks of work into one week.

No one has conducted a formal survey to see how many students fall into the second group. But it's safe to say there are quite a few of them out there. (There's also quite a few at the Gateway).

There are probably several reasons students fall behind. Some bite off more than they can chew — trying to juggle 15 hours with work, family, a social life and sleep. Others may have been lazy. Whatever the reason, every student has to accept responsibility for his or her situation.

But there is one factor making the situation more difficult. These days, major tests, papers and projects are due on dead week. This just compounds the problem.

Dead week was designed to give students time to catch up and prepare for final exams. They can't do this anymore.

No wonder they call it dead week.

THE SHADOW KNOWS.



Suicide leaves many unanswered questions

As I write my last column this semester, it seems almost appropriate that the topic is death.

To be more precise, it's about suicide.

Last semester, a high school classmate of mine shot himself while in his car. I just haven't felt motivated to write anything about that event until now.

Blue and I (along with about 40 other people) graduated as part of the Norfolk Catholic High School Class of 1989. Everything seemed great then — everyone was getting on with their lives and moving on to college.

We were never extremely close, but in a class of 40-some students, something like this hits home — hard.

In school, he was one of those students who "had it all." He started in three sports, always had a date, was very creative — the list goes on and on.

In contrast, I was a geek (at least through my junior year). So, needless to say, I envied him. I wondered how some men had it all and others were left with nothing.

It's funny how the tables can turn with the pull of a trigger.

The news spread quickly. The Norfolk Catholic Class of 1989 had its first reunion a little earlier than it had planned. Students returned to Norfolk from Notre Dame, Arizona, Missouri and wherever else their academic endeavors had taken them.

After the wake, the class got together for a discussion. The one question we wanted answered more than any was:

"Why?"

Unfortunately, the only person who had an answer to that question was dead.

Dave Dufek Columnist



Supposedly, he had just broken up with his girlfriend. However, I find it hard to believe this guy would let something like that devastate him.

But something like this really sobers you.

If I had ever been jealous of his talents before, it didn't matter anymore. His legs wouldn't carry him down the football field for the winning touchdown ever again.

He could no longer do anything better than I could. Despite the envy I felt in high school, that fact didn't make me feel vindicated.

I felt cheated somehow. I felt cheated for him, his family, his close friends and the people who missed a chance to meet him.

I felt lucky to be alive. I don't think people who attempt suicide realize the finality of what they're doing.

He'll never see another sunset or another summer. He won't get the chance to eat ice cream again. Or kiss a girl.

Or be a father.

It's not so much the fact that he died — everyone does. The real hurt comes when I realize that he didn't live. He chose to end his life prematurely.

Finally, I was angry with him.

Suicide is selfish. I didn't really think about that until the funeral.

Clutching red and white roses, the Class of 1989 stood in the church watching the casket and his relatives pass us after the mass. I watched their faces. Some of his relatives were shocked, and others were distressed.

But the real clincher was a boy who had to be no older than 6 or 7. He was dressed in a three-piece suit, and he looked right at me.

A solitary tear ran down his face.

That's when I got truly angry. People who commit suicide think only of themselves — they think life would be easier if they didn't live it.

But they don't bother to think of the effect their action will have on the ones who loved them.

It's a fact that everyone gets depressed sometimes. Some of those people consider suicide a way out. Others have attempted it.

Some people are just upset and want to "get back" at whomever hurt them.

Well, it may very well "get back" at that person. But think about it — you won't be around to enjoy your revenge. Blow up their car or something, instead.

It seems more rational than ending your life.

My class wished he would've taken the time to call any one of us. Perhaps we could've talked him out of making this mistake.

But he chose to fight his problems, whatever they were, on his own, and everyone lost.

He lost his life and we lost a friend.

Gateway

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The Gateway:
Our production room is very romantic

Trying to lick cancer 'with a good attitude'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

September 1987

"Vanessa and the kids flew here (Omaha)," Lois said. "Dr. Lynch did an X-ray," Lois said. "He said it could be cancer or possibly arthritis. 'Keep close watch on it,'" he said. "Vanessa and I both knew it was cancer." Vanessa felt at this point she needed to change doctors. "She was just very frustrated that nothing seemed to be being done."

May 1988

With a new physician and after numerous tests, Vanessa was told her ovaries had to be removed. "When they took them out, they were full of cancer. By taking the ovaries out, they extended her life expectancy by 18 to 24 months. "So what they were telling me is that Vanessa would live for two years maximum."

July 1988

"I went down to Texas for a vacation," Lois said. "Vanessa developed a cough. She thought it was just a bug or the flu." She again tested positive for cancer, which had metastasized. This means the cancer had spread throughout the bones and into the lungs. "The first thing she lost was her hair," Lois said. "Being bald was traumatic, but Vanessa thought it was better than being dead."

January 1989

Nothing could be done. "There was cancer on every bone in her body," Lois said. "Including her skull."

Vanessa received a prescription for some very powerful and detrimental drugs.

"The doctors said Vanessa's bones looked like Honeycomb cereal," Lois said. "Just the weight of walking could break a bone."

Lois paused for a moment. She seemed to reach deep into her mind to try and give me a glimpse of Vanessa's personality and character, because I have yet to meet her.

"Her attitude has always been fabulous. The only way you can lick cancer is with a good attitude."

By this time, Lois and I had spent almost two hours at her kitchen table. Although Lois had given me a chronological history of what has happened within the last five to six years of her daughter's life, I wanted to ask her a more personal question. How has this affected you, Lois?

"I think about Vanessa being sick all the time," she said. "I know there is nothing I can do about it. I have no control over anything that has (happened) or that will happen. I have to face the fact that there is nothing I can do."

"I said to God, 'It's all yours. Take care of her.' I have always felt He has done a great job. I have also felt all this time she has gotten worse."

Lois said after she returned from a visit to Detroit in January, "It tore me apart to see her so sick."

"When I got home, I fell apart. I sat there and thought, no one can do anything, no one can help Vanessa. I sat around feeling sorry for myself."

"I needed that falling apart," Lois said. "To a point it was a healthy thing. I was able to regroup and do what needed to be done."

She said Vanessa has been stubborn all her life, and it was probably a good thing she was. Once decided, Vanessa's mind

will not change, Lois said.

"Vanessa has the ability to rise above and carry on with her life. Not everybody can do that. Too many people can't."

How about Dave, how is he doing with this?

"Dave is doing fine," she said. "It depends on how I'm doing." Lois said he could be a little more emotional than she, but he worries just as much.

"Vanessa has always been very special to David," she said. "They've always been very close — very, very close. As a teenager they had their go-arounds, and I was always the mediator. But Vanessa is his baby."

"Myself," she says, "I think, why can't she live five, 10, 15 years or more. Why can't she outlive me?"

"Children are supposed to outlive their parents, and maybe she will."

"I pray a lot. I pray a whole lot," she said. "But my prayers won't make a good day."

It's probably the hardest thing a parent can have happen. To have their child, their own flesh and blood in pain and suffering and to be completely unable to do anything about it.

"I tried to bargain with God," she said. "It didn't work. But I probably will again."

"I can't hardly wait," Lois said. "I can't wait for her to move back with us. When she's with me, I can do little things."

"It's harder here with her there," Lois said. "I need to be with her."

"If she's having a good day, I have a good day. If she's having a bad day, I have a bad day," she said. "I think about her all the time."

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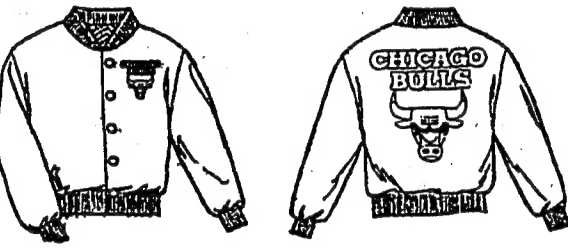
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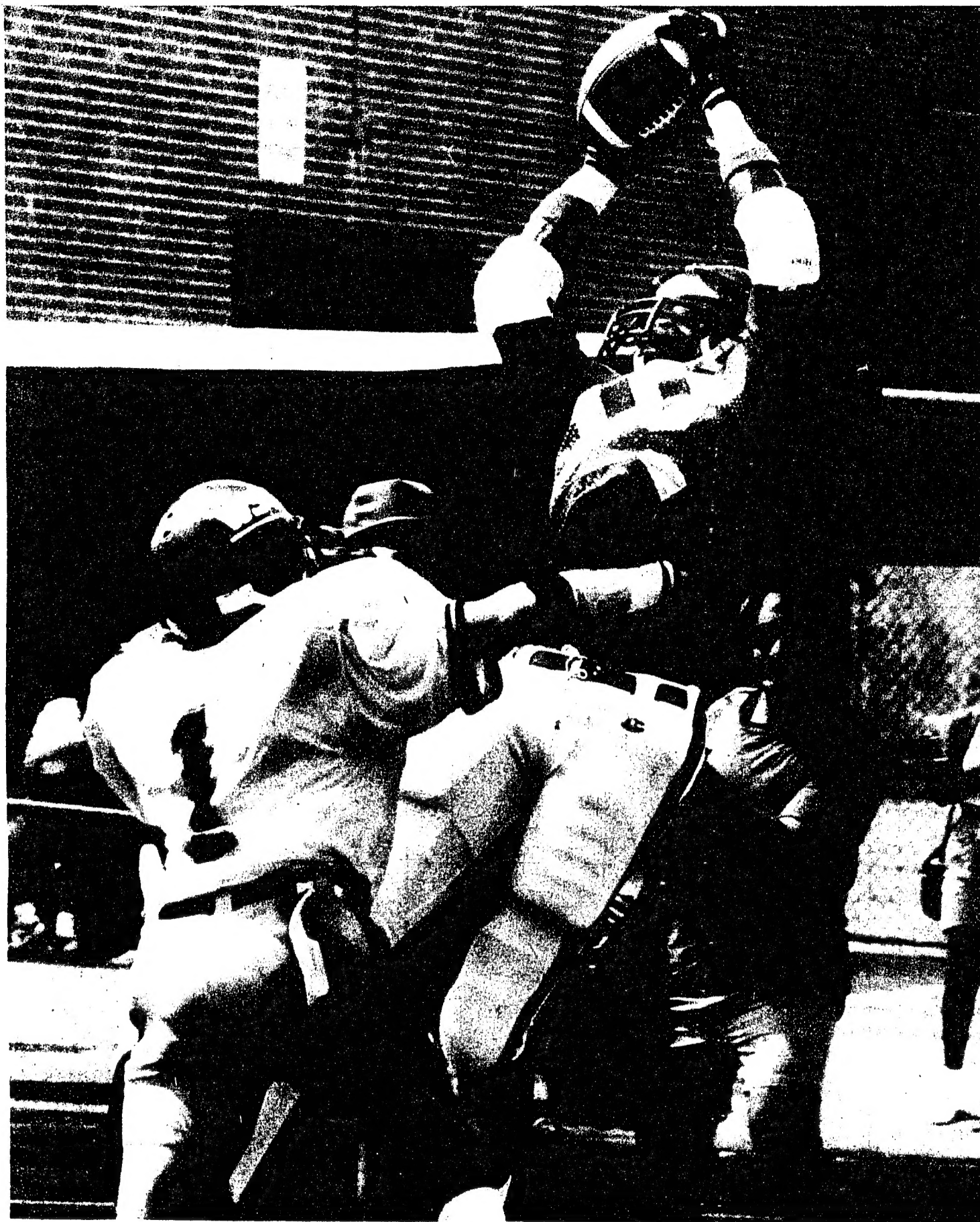
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Sports



Chris Crutchfield goes over the shoulder for a catch in a game last year. At this year's spring game Saturday, the Maverick offense gained 208 yards in the air and 100 yards on the ground.

—ERIC FRANCIS

UNO defense scores 55 points

The UNO defense was out to make some points Saturday.

At the Mavericks' annual spring football scrimmage, UNO's defense outscored the offense, coming away with a 55-52 victory.

The game was not the typical spring football scrimmage pitting the first-team offense and defense against the second unit.

Instead, the offense played against the defense the entire game. Points were awarded for offensive scores, while the defense racked up points by forcing punts and turnovers, and making other big plays.

Overall, UNO Coach Tom Mueller said he was happy with the team's performance. "Spring, overall, I was very happy. We're more prepared and the attitude is much more positive (than last fall). As a coaching staff, our goals are better defined."

During the game, UNO's defense scored points by forcing eight punts, recovering one fumble, making four tackles for losses, making eight quarterback sacks, blocking one field goal,

and holding the offense on downs seven times.

"It's probably as good as the defense has played, in a scrimmage, in a couple of years," Mueller said.

The two-hour, 100-play scrimmage was a defensive game for the most part, as the Maverick offense struck in the end zone just twice.

Scoring first for the offense was running back Eric Hill, who scored from four yards out and led the Maverick rushing attack with 91 yards on 22 carries. Running back Abel Fernandez kicked the extra point.

UNO's only other offensive touchdown came on a 59-yard pass from senior quarterback Paul Cech to William Thomas. For the game, Thomas caught two passes for 62 yards.

"Offensively, they're getting better," Mueller said. "They're getting better every practice."

For the day, Cech, the No. 1 quarterback heading into the game, completed 14 of 29 passes for 197 yards and two interceptions. Those two interceptions gave the defense 10 points.

In addition to the two touchdowns, UNO added 20 points on 20 first downs and two points for gains of more than 20 yards.

The Mavs picked up 308 yards in total offense, 208 yards in the air and 100 yards on the ground.

Fernandez carried 14 times for 38 yards, while senior fullback Roy Napora carried six times for four yards.

Cech rushed 10 times for minus 15 yards. Freshman quarterback Josh Luedtke ran three times for minus 18 yards and completed two of seven passes for 11 yards.

UNO's other freshman signal caller, Brian McDonnell, was one of three Mavericks who missed the spring game due to injuries. McDonnell suffered a knee injury earlier in the week and is probably out for the 1991 season.

The other injured Mavs who did not play were split end Tom Kortus (knee) and linebacker Joe Miller (neck). Both Kortus and Miller are expected back for the fall.

Sarah Smock

Sports columnist



Comebacks provide interesting athletics

Comebacks seem to be cropping up everywhere.

People all over this country seem to be realizing age is not the barrier to success it was once thought to be. And apparently athletes are discovering this also.

Over the last year or so, many older athletes have been attempting to re-enter the sports world. While the results haven't always been pretty, they have been interesting.

From a person who likes to root for the underdog most of the time (I usually root for whomever is playing against Nebraska in football), it has been great to hope these people can pull off a stunt which no one really believes they will be able to.

It's inspiring to watch people attempt to regain respect and recognition among their peers and the public. It makes me think there is actually life after 40.

Not all younger people feel this way though. According to one acquaintance of mine, "I think when they retire they should just give up for good. I think I'll just cash in when I'm 35."

Maybe some of those who have tried to make comebacks lately would agree with this guy. Nonetheless, watching the recent comeback attempts makes me think there's still time for me to become a talented athlete.

Swimming has always been one of my favorite sports, so when I heard Mark Spitz was planning a comeback, I was pretty excited.

At the 1972 Olympics in Munich, Spitz not only won an unprecedented seven gold medals, but he also simultaneously set seven world records. He is now 41 years old and plans to qualify for the 1992 Olympic team.

His comeback hasn't been full of glory so far. On April 13, Spitz was defeated by Tom Jager in the first competitive race of his comeback. On Saturday, Spitz was again defeated. This time Spitz was defeated by Matt Biondi, who won a 1988 Olympic gold medal in the 50-meter butterfly.

Although many people may not have heard about Spitz's comeback attempt, few people could probably say the same about George Foreman's recent comeback in the boxing ring.

Foreman went up against heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield. Although Holyfield outpointed him, Foreman did better than most people seemed to think he would. People got pretty excited about the fight, and I don't think those who watched it were disappointed. Of course, I would have liked to see Foreman win, but that's just me rooting for the underdog again.

The world of baseball seems to keep athletes around a little longer than some other sports do. This spring, Jim Palmer tried to make a comeback. Maybe his teammates would have preferred that he hadn't, since Palmer gave up 10 runs in only six innings.

I was a little upset when I heard about the outcome of the game, but I have to give him credit for trying.

Luckily, many athletes, as they get too old to compete, find some satisfaction in coaching others. If I were a young swimmer, boxer or baseball player, I would feel privileged to have people like Spitz, Foreman or Palmer coaching me.

These three athletes show real spirit. They are the kind of people who must really like what they are doing. And, of course, the money usually isn't bad either. Both Spitz and Foreman took home money for losing. I guess you can't beat that.